एल०पी०जी० वितरकों को टेलीफोन विस्तार सुविधाओं का दिया जाना

2911. **श्री सुनील कुमारपट्टनायक:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन के एल० पी० जी० वितरकों को उनके गैस के गोदामों के लिए टेलीफोन की विस्तार सेवा नहीं दी जा रही है जो कि उनके लिए महत्वपूर्ण है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण है और क्या सरकार एल०पी०जी० वितरकों को यह सुविधा प्रदान करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरधर गोमांगो) : (क) से (ग) कोई भी एल० पी० जी० डीलर टेलीफोन कनैक्शन के लिए अपने "शो रूम में "ओ आई टी विशेष" श्रेणी के अन्तर्गत अपना नाम दर्ज करवा सकता है जो एक प्राथमिकता श्रेणी है। यदि परियात का औचित्य सिद्ध हो, तो वे अति-प्राथमिकता के आधार पर "केवल आवक सुविधा" वाला अतिरिक्त टेलीफोन कनेक्शन भी ले सकते हैं तकनीकी दृष्टि से यह व्यवहार्य होने पर गोदाम में एक्सटेंशन की भी मंजूरी दी जा सकती है।

Exemption from Price Control in respect of Category-II Products

2912. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any company has been found availing exemption from price control in respect of Category-II products under the notification dated 21st July, 1988; and

(b) if so, what is the name of the company and the products involved?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) All SSI Units are exempted from the operation of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987, in so far as they relate to formulations specified in Category-II of the third Schedule of the said order, subject to satisfying the conditions stipulated in the relevant Order No. S.O. 719(E) dated 21st July, 1988, issued in this regard.

Telephone services in villages

2913. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide telephone services in the villages in the country also;

(b) if so, whether any scheme in this regard has been prepared under the current Five Year Plan period; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and how many villages will be covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As a policy objective, it is planned to provide telecommunication facility on fully subsidised basis within about 5 Kms of every inhabited place. For this purpose country has been divided into hexagons whose each side is 5 Kms and a principal village preferably a Panchayat headquarter in it is earmarked for providing telephone facility. 10,000 villages are planned to be covered during the current Five Year Plan period.

Comparative progress in Postal and telecommunication sectors

2914. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telecommunications are receiving greater

attention than the Postal communications;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the allocations between the two sectors in communications Ministry during the last three years; and

(d) what are the details with regard to the demand and response in respect of opening of post offices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (d) The needs of Posts and Telecommunications being different it may not be appropriate to compare the physical and financial resources allocated to them. Recognising the need for separate development of these two sectors, Government had established two separate Departments for Posts and Telecommunications by bifurcating the erstwhile combined P & T Department in January, 1985. Posts are basically labour intensive. Telecommunications are, however, largely technology oriented and require a large measure of capital investment for its development. The allocation of resources is determined by the Planning Commission and the Government taking into account the different needs of the Posts and Telecommunicatons. The Plan allocations during the last three years are as follows:

	Posts	Telecommunications
1986-87	Rs. 40 crores	Rs. 837.01 crores
1987-88	Rs. 40 crores	Rs. 1116.37 crores
1988-89	Rs. 50 crores	Rs. 1800.00 crores

A target of 6,000 new post offices has been provided for in the Seventh Plan. By and large, requests for opening of post offices which after examination has been found to satisfy the prescribed norms have been accommodated within this target. As against this target, during the period 1985-86 to 1988-89 (up to 20.3.89), 1938 new post offices have been santioned.

System to check misuse of STD and ISD Facility

2915. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has introduced a cqol proof system in all its digital electronic exchanges to stop the misuse of STD and ISD facility on the subscribers Phones;

(b) if so, what are the details of the said system;

(c) whether the system will be introduced in other type of exchanges also; and

(d) if so, by when and if not what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An STD/ISD call control facility has been introduced in some digital electronic exchanges (E-10B) on an experimental basis. Under the system, STD/ISD calls facility can be activated/deactivated by subscriber himself by dialling a code chosen and known to him only.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. This is possible only in E-10B exchanges at present.

Profits earned by ONGC on supply of gas

2916. SHRI K. V. THANKGABALU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil & Natural Gas Commission has earned profit from